FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 220 *16 November 1981*

COLOMBIA

Foreign Minister Discusses Border Demarcation F 1
Briefs: Unemployment Rate Drop; Gran Colombiana Strike; Oil Exploration F 1

ECUADOR

Spokesman Says Hurtado Government Not Endangered G 1
Guerrilla Methods in Disturbances Discussed G 1
Demonstrations at Polish, Salvadoran Embassies G 1
Committee Wants NASA's Tracking Station G 2

URUGUAY

Interior Minister Comments on Political Activity [EL DIA 25 Oct] K 1
Third Party To Support President Predicted K 1
Politicians React K 1
Party Leaders Reveal Details of Political Law K 2
Banned Uruguayan Weekly Resumes Publication K 2
Press Readmitted to State Council After 8 Years K 3
Argentine Experts To Help Install Nuclear Plant K 3

VENEZUELA

Foreign Minister Reacts to Cuban Statements L 1
Herrera's Trip to U.S. Causes Controversy L 1
Defense Minister: No Plans for Intervention L 2

MEXICO

De la Madrid Discusses Border Development M 1
Chamber of Deputies Expresses Support for Cuba M 1
Spanish Deputy Minister Arrives for Trade Talks M 1
Patrol Boats Being Built in Cadiz, Spain M 2
48 People Killed During Political Rally M 2

PANAMA

Official Report on Torrijos' Death Released N 1
Governor Dismissed for Lack of Party Discipline [LA PRENSA 15 Nov] N 1
Media Claim Officials Trying To Curb Free Speech [LA PRENSA 10 Nov] N 1
LA PRENSA's Editorial Council Reaffirms Policy [LA PRENSA 15 Nov] N 2
Assembly Rejects Cooperation Accord With GDR N 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

President Carazo Reacts to Haig Statements P 1
Briefs: Visa Agreement With ROK P 1

EL SALVADOR

Government To Distribute 81,000 Hectares of Land P 1
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 14 Nov]
Reportage on Armed Forces, Guerrilla Activities P 2
Railroad Service Interrupted P 2
[EL MUNDO 12 Nov]
Army Begins Cabanas Operation P 3
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 13 Nov]
FMLN's Central Front Reports P 3
[Radio Venceremos]
FMLN Reports Sabotage [Radio Venceremos] P 4
40 Troops Reportedly Killed P 4
[Havana]
Telephone Exchanges Destroyed P 4
Guerrilla Victories Reported P 4
[Radio Venceremos]

GUATEMALA

Mendoza Comments on American Armies Meeting P 5
Economy Minister Pleased About Oil Reserves P 6
[EL IMPARCIAL 4 Nov]

HONDURAS

Post Commander Reports Nicaraguan Incursion P 6
Violation of Airspace by Nicaragua Reported P 7
Soldier Interviewed on El Merendon Operation P 7
Human Rights Commission Protests Abuses P 8
[San Jose LA NACION 8 Nov]

NICARAGUA

Ambassador to U.S. Cruz Resigns Position P 9
Recalled for Consultations P 9
Resignation Reported P 9
Explains Withdrawal From Post P 9
Defines Position P 10
Border Incident With Honduras Reported P 11
Communique Issued P 11
Sandino on Honduran 'Lie' P 11
Ortega on Border Incidents P 12
Cordova Rivas on U.S. Ties, National Dialogue P 12
[LA PRENSA 7 Nov]
Pastora Denies Nicaraguan Aid to El Salvador P 13
Trade Minister on Expansion of Export Markets P 14
Independent Groups To Defend Rights, Freedom P 15
[Radio Corporacion]
Briefs: Reserve Battalion Mobilized P 15

CUBA

Castro on Solution to Central America Situation Q 1
Nationwide Support for Castro statements Continues Q 1
AALAPSO Rally Calls for World Solidarity With Cuba Q 1
Libya Will Stand With Cuba if U.S. Attacks Q 2
Jamaican Opposition Delegation Arrives for Visit Q 2
Patterson Press Conference Q 2
Montane Receives Patterson Q 3
Rodriguez Meets With Patterson Q 3
CEMA Food Meeting Ends; Protocol Signed Q 3

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES BORDER DEMARCATION

PA140304 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds said today that he was in favor of increasing the number of military troops along the border with Venezuela. He said that this could serve to prove that our government has an interest in that zone. Lemos Simmonds' statement, which could cause immediate international reaction, was made to newsmen at Narino Palace after his weekly meeting with President Julio Cesar Turbay. He was questioned about Venezuela's decision to increase its border patrol. He said that it was a positive action and he wished that Colombia could do the same, to show that it has an interest in that zone. He added that the Venezuelan Government decision reflects internal motives and that there is nothing wrong if the two countries patrol their border, which could prevent incidents that might otherwise become more serious.

I wish that we could do the same, so that our fellow citizens along the border could feel more secure. Unfortunately, Colombian troops are needed to maintain public order, Foreign Minister Lemos Simmonds pointed out.

Lemos Simmonds also confirmed today that Presidents Luis Herrera Campins and Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala of Venezuela and Colombia respectively have exchanged notes. He said that he was not authorized to reveal the contents of the notes. However, he hinted to the newsmen that the two presidents' notes dealt with the border problem. Lemos Simmonds mentioned this while speaking of border problems that have recently taken place with Venezuela:

[Begin Lemos Simmonds recording] We sent a very cordial note to the Venezuelan Government in which we suggested that the commissions that are going to demarcate the border resume their work. This is an indispensable task in the establishment of the border between the two countries. Our ambassador to Venezuela has reported that the Venezuelan Government gave full attention to our note. We must now hold conversations to see how can we put the commissions to work. Through the direct efforts of the president of the republic, which I appreciate, funds have been allocated for the task of defining the borderline; this has been decided and approved. We are going to get some funds -- though not all we need for such a drawn out and tiresome process -- which will allow us to work again on this problem. This is vital to our country, for as long as the people who live on either side of the border do not know whether they are in Colombian or Venezuelan territory, border incidents are inevitable. A person who doesn't know exactly in which territory he is could cross the border unknowingly. This, as you known, causes a natural reaction among those who feel that the sovereignty of the country is being violated. [end recording]

BRIEFS

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DROP -- Preliminary figures indicate an unemployment index for the first 9 months of 1981 of 8.1 percent in the seven main cities of the country, as compared to 9.1 percent for the same period the previous year. [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Nov 81 PA]

GRAN COLOMBIANA STRIKE -- The Gran Colombiana labor strike was lifted at 0700 today after nearly 4 months of inactivity, according to Julio Cesar Uribe Acosta, secretary general of the fleet. He added the issue is now in the hands of the arbitration court which is expected to annoucne the final decision within the next 15 days. [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Nov 81 PA]

OIL EXPLORATION -- Oil exploration activities have increased during the past few months in Colombia, according to the National Planning Department bulletin which indicated that the results were reflected in a 2.5-percent production rise in the first half of 1981. [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Nov 81 PA]

SPOKESMAN SAYS HURT. DO GOVERNMENT NOT ENDANGERED

PA141845 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] President Hurtado's government is not in danger of destabilization despite recent social problems which resulted in a wave of student protests and moves which are continuing such as the strike of the nation's teachers. Ernesto Alban, national secretary of public information, said that the political infiltration [as heard] which somehow seek to destabilize the system has not achieved its goal by using social unrest because the same political groups and labor organizations are aware that the defense of democracy is the primary fundamental objective, above and beyond the economic and social objectives of the various groups.

The government spokesman revealed that during the president's recent dialogues with labor leaders they had raised this issue and agreed that the fundamental objective is to contribute to the maintenance of the democratic system. He further pointed out that there is no factor which endangers constitutional life such as could apparently occur according to a report appearing in a Guayaquil daily. In addition, the official spokesman said that the government has not considered using the constitutional recourse which allows the president to declare a state of emergency in this nation because of the situation.

GUERRILLA METHODS IN DISTURBANCES DISCUSSED

PA131602 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] The student disturbances which a high-ranking government official has blamed on an unspecified extremist group, decreased on Thursday. Meanwhile, classes continued to be suspended practically throughout the country. Acting Government Minister (Vladimir Serrano) said that behind the student groups there is an extremist group interested in destabilizing the constitutional government. I think the country is experiencing moments of agitation but we hope and are confident that the country will soon return to calm and peace, Government Minister Galo Garcia Feraud said on returning from the United States:

[Begin recording] [Garcia Feraud] Vandalism or methods that imply attempts to establish urban guerrillas cannot disrupt the calm that we Ecuadoreans want.

[Question] Why do you think these protest demonstrations are the plotting of urban guerrillas?

[Answer] From the information I have received, the new way that certain sectors are behaving shows that methods that weren't previously used are now being used. This is seen by the aggressive and serious use of molotov cocktails and the demands that gasoline be turned over to them so that it can be ignited with matches. This indicates that there is use of methods that we had not previously noted in street disturbances.

[Question] (?Who do you think is encouraging) those urban guerrilla methods?

[Answer] At this time we don't have concrete information to enable us to make specific accusation. You know I don't like to make specific charges without having sufficient grounds to back them up and make them public. I think that if the objective is to create conditions for the emergence of a de facto government as a result of chaos, those who are (?instigating this) [words indistinct] would surely find in a de facto government circumstances that aren't precisely those that currently exist in the country. [end recording]

DEMONSTRATIONS AT POLISH, SALVADORAN EMBASSIES

PA141950 Paris AFP in Spanish 1612 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] Quito, 14 Nov (AFP) -- Last night the Salvadoran and Polish Embassies were stoned by groups of youthful demonstrators, it was learned today.

Both attacks occurred at approximately 1800. According to a Polish diplomat, the demonstrators whose sponsorship is unknown, carried a placard in support of the Solidarity trade union and threw rocks and rotten fruit at the embassy. Similar acts occurred in front of the Salvadoran Embassy where demonstrators yelled slogans against the Christian Democratic junta of El Salvador. For several days students have been staging violent but sporadic demonstrations in Quito against the high cost of living.

COMMITTEE WANTS NASA'S TRACKING STATION

PA131617 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] The International Affairs Committee of the National Chamber of Representatives has decided to recommend that the government of President Oswaldo Hurtado Larrea establish the maximum measures of control to prevent the arbitrary and indiscriminate withdrawal of the minitracking station of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA, in Cotopaxi. (Alejandro Carrion Perez), member of the committee, commented on this:

[Begin recording] Ecuador has been moving somewhat late but fortunately still in time in the area of space sovereignty. We believe other countries have advanced quite a lot in this field. If we don't act we will lose legitimate rights such as the use of the geostationary segment which could very well be used by other states with great economic, technological, strategic and other types of benefits. This would prevent Ecuador from advancing and benefiting from the placement of a satellite such as the one we aspire to which would permit Ecuador to (?advance) in the area of communications and meteorology, to have good information for agricultural purposes, to have a good system of control of the sea areas and the national territory in the field of security through radars, detectors and technical tools, and in sum to obtain a number of other benefits from the economic viewpoint besides consolidating the country's space sovereignty.

This means that Ecuador needs the minitracking station in order to achieve those objectives. Therefore, it is Ecuador's belief that since the United States has obtained economic, technological and other benefits, it is time that this equipment be turned over for the specific objectives of Ecuador. Therefore, in the frame work of an act of full sovereignty, we have suggested high-level negotiations so this will be achieved and the dismantling of the station which NASA has announced avoided.

[Question] Regarding this problem, it seems that the committee expressed its surprise over this unilateral decision of the United States?

[Answer] We expressed our opposition to a decision that we consider to be unilateral. We base this on the provisions of international law which are above an agreement that could at some time be described as unconstitutional. We think that this station has fulfilled its role and that it is now Ecuador's turn to benefit from this technology and equipment which for the United States might currently be obsolete or outdated. This would even be worse if there are plans to withdraw them from Ecuador to transfer them to some other station in Africa, Asia or somewhere else when they could very well stay here, benefiting Ecuador [words indistinct] technological programs in the space field. [end recording]

INTERIOR MINISTER COMMENTS ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY

PY051706 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 25 Oct 81 p 15

[By Aurelio Molina, special correspondent]

[Excerpt] Paysandu -- "The measures we have taken -- not limiting the number of people in political meetings -- is to clearly show that the government wants by all means to enable the parties to carry out their activities but under the understanding that the laws of the game are clear and well known to everyone," Interior Minister Yamandu Trinidad said during an interview in Meseta de Artigas after a ceremony honoring Artigas. He also said that restrictions have been lifted, allowing the chief of police to give all the facilities needed, according to requests made and matters to be discussed, so that everyone can feel free to give an opinion.

The minister was asked: Does this resolution also regulate the holding of assemblies or political demonstrations?

He replied: I would like to make this quite clear. The regulation is for the level of party leaders and not for party demonstrations. It is necessary to prevent misunderstandings because if certain measures are taken someone is going to get hurt. In other words, dialogue will continue the way it was established. Once the parties have their officials and statutes, then the measures will be extended but not for the time being.

THIRD PARTY TO SUPPORT PRESIDENT PREDICTED

PY102111 Paris AFP in Spanish 1255 GMT 9 Nov 81

[Text] Montevideo, 9 Nov (AFP) -- The future creation of a third political party through an election with the possibility of sponsoring the continuity of the current president after the end of his administration was predicted today. Col Nestor Bolentini, former interior minister and current state advisor, believes that the new party could be made up from groups of the two traditional parties, Blanco and Colorado.

Bolentini explained that there is a firm possibility that the new party would support President Gregorio Alvarez but that this is still premature. He said that it is necessary that the chief of state calmly end the 3 and 1/2 year transition period.

Bolentini, who is actively participating in the current institutionalization process in Uruguay, said that there is displeasure regarding how the traditional parties are being led and that men of good will of the two parties may believe it necessary to unite in order to bring this process to an end. In conclusion, he said that the third party is necessary for the political evolution of Uruguay.

Politicians React

PY120224 Paris AFP in Spanish 2151 GMT 10 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 10 Nov (AFP) -- The possible creation of a third political party in Uruguay as an answer to the internal divisions in the traditional parties elicited a wave of disagreement today and once again brought up the subject of political parties, a subject which had been quiet for several weeks. The surprising possibility of the creation of a third party in view of the circumstances, which would even propose the election of the currently designated president, Gregorio Alvarez, through universal surfrage, was announced on Monday by retired Col Nestor Bolentini, state councillor and former interior minister.

The immediate reestablishment of activities by political parties after 8 years of prohibition -- which was the first step taken in the process which will lead to the country's institutionalization in 1985 -- during the past few weeks resulted in a series of internal disagreements and in a standstill in the dialogue with the military.

While the Communists, Socialists and Christian Democrats have been excluded from this process, the traditional Blanco and Colorado Parties are deepening the century-old disagreements among their members even more and divisions are surfacing once again.

Regarding the question of representativity, old party leaders have been faced with the demands of newcomers who aspire to leadership in view of the fact that most old Blanco and Colorado leaders have been stripped of their political rights. And so, under the expectant gaze of the military and accompanied by some sporadic warnings from some government official on the inappropriateness of dissension, the optimistic plans to approve the law on political parties' activities in this month of November fell apart and have been postponed until 1982. Colonel Bolentini's declarations had deep repercussions and aroused strong reaction among the traditional politicians. This came at a time when political leaders seemed to have resigned themselves to the current situation and the people were not too happy about the way things had been arranged.

As was foreseeable, the politicians' reactions, especially against the announced idea, poured in during the past few hours. Maximo Gurmendez, leader of the Colorado Party, for example, emphasized that we will not allow the creation of a new party established on the basis of a personality cult or due to temporary problems. He accepted the creation of additional parties, but based on a common ideology and adjusted to the democratic bases which we have been discussing.

Alberto Gallinal, outstanding Blanco leader, stated that there is no need to create a third party and pointed out that he didn't believe it was opportune to talk about this subject.

PARTY LEADERS REVEAL DETAILS OF POLITICAL LAW

PY141816 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] All political parties are studying the scope of the political party statute draft law in view of what has been disclosed by those political party leaders who have attended a meeting with COMASPO [Armed Forces Political Affairs Commission] members.

Spokesmen of the three political parties that were invited to the meeting expressed their satisfaction with the results of the meeting, despite the remaining minor disagreements. It was noted that the minimum number of members required to establish a political party has been fixed at 8,000 members. Up to three presidential candidates per party will reportedly be allowed. Moreover, the draft law establishes that each one of these parties may submit three lists of senators while each department will be allowed to have a list of six representatives per political faction. It seems that the majority agrees that registration for internal [political party] elections should not be mandatory. However, this will not be the case with candidates to elective posts. It was learned that there is disagreement within the sectors about the date internal [party] elections should be held. Nevertheless, it was established that these elections will be held in 1982.

BANNED URUGUAYAN WEEKLY RESUMES PUBLICATION

PY130017 Paris AFP in Spanish 1553 GMT 10 Nov 81

[Text] Montevideo, 10 Nov (AFP) -- The independent pro-Christian Democratic weekly OPCION was published today after a 1-month ban imposed by the government. OPCION confessed its bewilderment over the legal grounds which had been claimed for the measure in an editorial entitled: "Authority Cannot Live at the Expense of Dead Freedoms."

At the same time the editorial asked the following questions: What is the role the press must play in this transition period, according to the rulers? Does the government tolerate criticism of its actions by the press? Are these still banned issues or names and if so why?

The editorial stressed that a free press has never been an obstacle to the attainment of the great national goals and that even though no government which has confidence in its own actions and stability should disregard criticism that might be made by the press, it must not fear it.

When the ban of OPCION became known, State Councillor Bernardo Barran told his congressional counterparts that the measure was untimely at a time of political opening, and he warned that in his opinion no major political goal could be achieved in an atmosphere of fear.

Meanwhile, the Blanco weekly LA DEMOCRACIA, which is published under the direction of banished Blanco leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, is serving a 2-month ban, the second penalty which has been imposed on it by the government since September.

PRESS READMITTED TO STATE COUNCIL AFTER 8 YEARS

PY130126 Paris AFP in Spanish 0040 GMT 11 Nov 81

[Text] Montevideo, 10 Nov (AFP) -- The local and international press today returned to the Legislative Palace after an 8-year absence to report on the deliberations of the State Council, an organization which has replaced congress in Uruguay. The approved regulation indicates that three journalists per news media will be allowed. The people in general, however, will only be allowed in the (?galleries if) the council members approve it.

ARGENTINE EXPERTS TO HELP INSTALL NUCLEAR PLANT

PY051518 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1705 GMT 31 Oct 81

[Text] Montivideo, 30 Oct (TELAM) -- According to information published in the local daily EL PAIS today, experts of the Argentine Nuclear Engery Commission (CNEA) have been authorized to cooperate with Uruguayan authorities up to 31 December 1982 in the installation of a nulcear plant in Uruguay.

The daily points out that the two countries, at the request of Uruguay, in March 1980 signed an agreement in this regard as well as for the installation of a nuclear plant, with an experimental reactor, which will probably be established near Pando (near Montevideo).

EL PAIS points out that the installation of a modern experimental reactor of six megawatts, will serve for carrying out investigations, training technicians, production of radioisotopes for medical uses and similar activities. The Argentine industry, which has already produced this type of reactor for Peru, will be in charge of installing it in Uruguay.

The daily also points out that currently Uruguayan technicians are being trained at the Argentine laboratories and nuclear plants of Atucha, Bariloche and Cordoba.

The daily ends its report by stating that to date Uruguay has not decided whether it will use natural uranium as Argentina does or whether it will use enriched uranium as Brazil. Therefore the reactor will have to be flexible.

FOREIGN MINISTER REACTS TO CUBAN STATEMENTS

PA122344 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Euclides Perez report from Miraflores presidential palace]

[Text] The statements made by Ricardo Alarcon, vice foreign minister of the Republic of Cuba, in support of Guyana constitute inadmissible interference in matters that are exclusively the concern of the states that are signatory to the Geneva Agreement and the Port-of-Spain Protocol. A statement to this effect was made a few minutes ago by Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco, on issuing a communique on behalf of the Foreign Ministry on Cuba's position of support for Guyana in its dispute with Venezuela.

[Begin recording] [Zambrano] Cuban Foreign Minister Alarcon made a statement yesterday. This is not the first time that support of this type has been extended. Some months ago, when Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli visited Georgetown, he signed a joint declaration with Foreign Minister Jackson in which this support was extended publicly for the first time. This support has now been reiterated by the Cuban vice foreign minister. Therefore, I think it is appropriate to issue the following statement:

The statements made by Ricardo Alarcon, vice foreign minister of the Republic of Cuba, constitute inadmissible interference in matters that are exclusively the concern of the states that are signatory to the Geneva Agreement and the Port-of-Spain Protocol.

The charges made by Mr Alarcon to the effect that Venezuela's claim is proof of expansion produce justified indignation in the Venezuelan community, which is united in its awareness of and participation in the ethical and legal content of the claims being made and is aware of the need to achieve a satisfactory and practical solution. It is a community that has reaffirmed its unshakeable adherence to peaceful methods for the solution of controversies and a community whose history and tradition prove without a doubt that expansionism is alien to the Venezuelan nature.

The reiterated position of aggression shown by the Cuban Government toward Venezuela in this and other matters should be rejected by all Venezuelans, regardless of party or ideology.

The Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, in its effort to internationalize the territorial dispute, has turned for support to countries that have proven their commitment to intervention and their bellicose spirit on many occasions. It thus separates itself from the Latin American community, more each day, thereby promoting extracontinental interests.

[Question] Mr Minister, to digress a little, what is your opinion of the present status of relations between Guyana and Suriname, which are on the verge of breaking off diplomatic relations?

[Answer] We have received information that the Guyanese crossed over into the territory of Suriname and that, logically, large-scale demonstrations have taken place in Paramaribo in protest of this intervention and expansionism and against Guyana's attitude. [end recording]

HERRERA'S TRIP TO U.S. CAUSES CONTROVERSY

PA140412 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2201 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Caracas, 13 Nov (EFE) -- Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins has everything ready for his trip to the United States next Monday. Of his recent trips, this one has caused the most controversy in Venezuelan political circles. Some fully justify it while others are completely opposed to it. The two main political parties of the country, the (ruling) Social Christian Party [COPEI] and the Social Democratic "Democratic Action," voted in the legislature in favor of Herrera Campin's trip to the north.

The votes of the leftist sector were not in favor, because its leaders believe that it would not be to Venezuela's advantage to be too closely associated with the policy pursued by the Reagan administration.

Though the Social Democrats voted in favor of the trip, they warned that Venezuela must maintain a sovereign stance in international policy and must not submit to U.S. dictates. The Social Democratic leaders believe that President Herrera's trip to Washington is fully justified if the important role played by the United States in its relations with Latin America is taken into consideration.

In this controversy over the Venezuelan president's trip to Washington, the topics of Nicaragua, Cuba and El Salvador have been brought into discussion. The opposition parties have reiterated that it is necessary for Venezuela to explain in Washington the uncomfortable position in which all of Latin America would be placed by an intervention by that northern nation in any part of this continent.

According to observers, Herrera Campin's visit to the United States is purely political, although some economic topics will be discussed. The recent North-South dialogue in Cancun, Mexico, left some positive prospects that will be also discussed by the two leaders in this new meeting.

In addition, we might surmise that the participation of Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti means that the topic of oil will not be ignored in Washington.

National Defense Minister Bernardo Leal Puche is also traveling with President Herrera, which raises the possibility of negotiation for a group of modern "F-16" military aircraft, to strengthen Venezuelan air power.

President Herrera also includes Manuel Perez in his entourage. Perez is an adviser in international economic affairs, who represented Venezuela and several Third World countries in the North-South dialogue.

Apart from the political controversy it has caused, the Venezuelan president's trip to Washington has also created expectations in regard to future relations between the United States and Venezuela, which are already considered to be very positive.

DEFENSE MINISTER: NO PLANS FOR INTERVENTION

PA120430 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0009 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] Caracas, 11 Nov (EFE) -- Venezuelan Defense Minister Bernardo Leal Puche said today that "Venezuela is not preparing its troops to intervene in any country of the world, but rather to increase its security and readiness." Leal Puche met with the congressional finance committee to analyze the defense budget for 1982. The minister expressed dissatisfaction with the budget of approximately $1.17 billion assigned for defense and pointed that in order to fulfill its plan the ministry needs 600 million bolivares more, approximately $143 million.

He added that without this budget increase it will be impossible to reinforce the military installations and equipment on the border of the Essequibo zone, which Venezuela is demanding from Guyana, one of the principal projects of the border security plan.

Leal Puche explained that the purchase of F-16 planes from the United States will not be financed through the budget defense, but through public bonds.

Venezuela will pay approximately $500 million to the United States for 24 warplanes. It seems that Venezuela will buy 18 F-16 and 6 F-16-B jets. Delivery will begin at the beginning of 1984, according to unofficial sources.

DE LA MADRID DISCUSSES BORDER DEVELOPMENT

FL131823 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0604 GMT 13 Nov 81

[By Carlos Zamarron, special correspondent]

[Text] Tijuana, Boja California Norte, 12 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado said here today that he favors dialogue as a peaceful solution to international problems, and understanding and equal cooperation among nations of the world.

Upon arrival here this afternoon, the PRI presidential candidate and former secretary of programming and budget spoke before a crowded reception. De la Madrid said that Mexico is emerging and flourishing along its northern borders and demands the attention and solidarity of all Mexicans. "Not only is it important to exchange products and expertise with other countries but also to evolve and uphold the traditions of our national heritage, because the prime source of our greatness lies in our sense of nationalism," he emphasized. The candidate said that we should face the problems at the border and share the responsibility to address and resolve those situations. He reaffirmed that "one of the fundamental goals of my campaign is to strengthen revolutionary nationalism." He added that the Bravo and Colorado Rivers are the borders of a culture that has valuable defenders in the people of Baja California. "My respects to Tijuana, sentinel of the fatherland," he said. The PRI presidential candidate pointed out that priority should be given to advance border development so that once completed it may enhance the national economy.

Miguel de la Madrid spoke about the accomplishments relative to the border areas. He mentioned for example the in-bond industries [maquiladoras], the problems of semiprocessed goods [articulos gancho] and border development but, he said, "we have to constantly turn those potentials into social realities." At the same time, he acknowledged that national production has not adequately supplied the border regions, nor has border industry satisfied the needs of the domestic market. That is why we have to consolidate the social structure of the border region and direct its production of goods toward satisfaction of local and regional markets as well as toward export and domestic markets.

This is the second day of Miguel de la Madrid's campaign in the state of Baja California Norte.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR CUBA

FL131247 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1207 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies of the Mexican congress has decided, during a plenary session, to send a message to the Cuban National Assembly in which it expresses its solidarity for Cuba in view of a possible U.S. aggression against Cuba.

In part the message indicates: Once again we affirm Mexico's position regarding the self-determination of nations, and especially Cuba's right to freely forge, without foreign interference, its own future.

The message of Mexico's lower chamber was released simultaneously with remarks made by Jose Eduardo Navarrete, Mexican under secretary for foreign affairs, who asserted that Mexico firmly opposes another U.S. blockade of Cuba.

SPANISH DEPUTY MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TRADE TALKS

FL141902 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0545 GMT 14 Nov 81

[By Francisco Espana]

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 13 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- The deputy minister of industry and energy of Spain, Enrique Aldama, affirmed in an interview held at the airport here tonight, that the middle countries between rich and poor will be the main supporters of economic, energy and food industry development for the less favored nations.

He is here to take part in the 3rd meeting of the subcommittee for industry of the joint Mexico-Spain trade committee.

The Spanish official will be in our country until Wednesday. During his stay he will visit with President Jose Lopez Portillo and will be talking with Secretary of Patrimony and Industrial Development Jose Andres de Oteyza Tuesday morning.

He will also visit the Veracruz shipyards which Spain plans to invest in and supply accessories for Mexican ships. Finally, Enrique Aldama mentioned that there are ongoing negotiations between Mexico and Spain for Spain to sell a greater number of ships which could be purchased by the Mexican Government or by private industry.

PATROL BOATS BEING BUILT IN CADIZ, SPAIN

FL302042 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1825 GMT 30 Oct 81

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 30 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- The first of six patrol boats of the Hawk type, under construction by the Bazan Construction Enterprise of San Fernando, Spain, for the Mexican Navy, will be launched on 12 November. The ceremony will take place at the enterprise's shipyards near the port of Cadiz, and will be presided over by the wife of the Mexican chief of state, Carmen Romano de Lopez Portillo, accompanied by Secretary of the Navy Ricardo Chazaro Lara.

In his report to the president of the republic, the secretary of the navy stated that the program of activities includes a courtesy visit to the Spanish sovereigns in the city of Madrid.

48 PEOPLE KILLED DURING POLITICAL RALLY

NC160653 Paris AFP in English 0646 GMT 16 Nov 81

[Text] Merida, Mexico, 16 Nov (AFP) -- At least 48 people were crushed to death here Sunday when a wall collapsed during a political rally at the local bullring. Among the dead were about 20 children, who had been taken along by their parents because song-and-dance acts and comedy turns were billed along with the political speeches. Merida lies some 1,250 kilometers (750 miles) southeast of Mexico City. The rally was a windup to General Graciliano Alpuche's campaign for governor of the State of Yucatan.

OFFICIAL REPORT ON TORRIJOS' DEATH RELEASED

PA130435 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] At a press conference today, Attorney General Olmedo Miranda released the official report on the death of Gen Omar Torrijos and of the other six persons who were traveling with him at the time of the plane crash on 30 July 1981, during a flight to Coclesito.

Attorney General Miranda said that the technical report turned in by a Panamanian commission and by experts from the Canadian company that built the plane confirms that the accident occurred because of poor visibility, due to bad weather, and to the action taken by the pilot, who changed course to try to find better weather conditions.

The attorney general said that the opinion expressed by Moises Torrijos, General Torrijos' brother, on the possibility that the plane was sabotaged has no valid foundation.

GOVERNOR DISMISSED FOR LACK OF PARTY DISCIPLINE

PA160210 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Nov 81 p 1 A

[By Rogelio Herrera, correspondent]

[Excerpts] Chitre, Herrera — Herrera Province Governor Carmelo Spadafora, father of Dr Hugo Spadafora, the commander of the Victoriano Lorenzo Battalion during the Sandinist revolution, was dismissed by Jorge Ritter, government and justice minister, for not following and obeying the orders that his party, the Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD, and the executive branch, gave him in relation to the election of the mayor of Chitre District.

Here is what Minister Ritter had to say: The executive branch is the authority. The governors of the provinces are appointed by the president of the republic and the government and justice minister. When Governor Spadafora complained that he was just a front figure, he is simply saying that he does not accept orders from the government and justice minister or from the president of the republic. Anywhere and under any circumstance such an attitude justifies his dismissal. Dario Delgado was appointed acting governor, 2 hours later.

Today, Sunday, the situation was tense, because although Spadafora has been dismissed, he will remain in his post as Chitre Corregimiento Representative and he will be one of the three representatives who will vote to decide who will be elected mayor. The other representatives are Pedro Siu of La Arena Corregimiento and Jose D. Cedno of Monagrillo Corregimiento.

MEDIA CLAIM OFFICIALS TRYING TO CURB FREE SPEECH

PA102248 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Nov 81 p 1

[Report by Wilfredo Justavino J.]

[Text] David, Chiriqui, Panama -- Under instructions from his superiors, Roberto Arauz, regional director of social communications media, has requested a copy of the "Opinion" newscast aired on Radio Chiriqui on Saturday, 7 November. During that program, Dr Rodrigo Miranda, Guillermo Cochez and Genarino Rosas discussed the press freedom situation following the arrest warrant issued against LA PRENSA Director Carlos Ernesto Gonazlea de la Lastra.

According to Director Arauz, "This copy will be submitted to the national directorate for their information."

Radio circles in Chiriqui view this measure as yet another action aimed at restricing freedom of expression, promoted by the government ministry in order to silence those who dissent from the current administration's way of thinking.

The note says: Mr Wilfredo Justavino J., director of radio newscast "Opinion," Radio Chiriqui: In accordance with provisions adopted by the National Social Communications Media Directorate, I would very much appreciate your sending me a copy of the newscast you direct on Radio Chiriqui, broadcast on Saturday 7 November 1981. This copy will be submitted to the national directorate for their information.

Sincerely,
[Signed] Roberto Arauz G., regional director of social communications media, Chiriqui-Bocas del Toro

LA PRENSA'S EDITORIAL COUNCIL REAFFIRMS POLICY

PA160240 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Nov 81 p 1 A

[Text] LA PRENSA's editorial council declares:

1. That since the foundation of this newspaper, its editorial and information policies have been discussed in a constructive manner during its monthly meetings;

2. That it considers false the charges that LA PRENSA slandered national government officials and offended the memory of deceased politicians;

3. That it considers that the earthly activities of all deceased public figures must be objectively analyzed so that we can locate them precisely within a historical perspective;

4. That it most emphatically condemns that attack, on LA PRENSA's facilities and on persons there present, by the Democratic Revolutionary Party -- government party and "political arm of the present administration;"

5. That it holds the government responsible for the consequences of this terrorist action against private property and freedom of expression. This could unleash an era of violence of unforeseeable results started precisely by those, who by legal mandate, have the duty to maintain peace and protect the lives and properties of citizens;

6. That it reasserts its support for LA PRENSA's board of directors and management as well as for its editorial and information policy.

Presented by Roberto Reina and unanimously approved at the meeting of Thursday, 29 October.

The members of the editorial council are: Ester W. de Abadi, Roberto Aleman Z., Gloria Guardia de Alfaro, Ruben Dario Carles, Camilo Franceshi, Mario Galindo H., Arrigo Guardia, Federico Humbert Jr, Guillermo Quijano Jr, Miguel Angel Martin, Miguel J. Moreno Jr, Julio Ce. Pinzon, Roberto Reina, Gilberto Solis, Manuel Solis Palma, Otilia A. de Tejeira, Alejandro Vasquez Pinto, Bolivar Pedreschi, Cesar Arosemena, Aura Guerra de Villalaz, Winston Robles and Carlos Lucas Lopez.

ASSEMBLY REJECTS COOPERATION ACCORD WITH GDR

PA082115 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2236 GMT 6 Nov 81

[Text] Panama City, 6 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Panama's National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives today rejected a cultural and scientific cooperation agreement with the German Democratic Republic [GDR]. The assembly's rejection was based on two articles in particular, which refer to "cooperation in the press, radio broadcasting and television sectors," and to an exchange in "the political fields related to youth."

The treaty, signed on 23 August 1979 by the then Panamanian minister of education, Gustavo Garcia de Paredes, and by GDR Ambassador Peter Lorf, had been left in "suspension" and was returned to the assembly's foreign relations committee.

Several articles in the rejected treaty referred to an exchange of scholarships and artistic tours and to cooperation in educational matter. Another treaty with the GDR, dealing with trade, was not discussed by the National Assembly today because of a lack of a quorum.

COSTA RICA

PRESIDENT CARAZO REACTS TO HAIG STATEMENTS

PA132201 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Asked about the statement by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig on the possibility of intervention in El Salvador's internal affairs, Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo said that he has always objected to any type of interventionism. The superpowers should change their views and forget about intervention in other countries' affairs because such actions evoke rejection by all, he said. He indicated that the most recent example of this rejection was when the USSR intervened in Afghanistan.

We are ending a critical year. Analyzing the year that is about to end, President Rodrigo Carazo termed it critical in the context of the international situation. However, the president believes that there are possibilities of improving the situation in some aspects, despite the political convulsion and economic difficulties which developing countries particularly face.

President Carazo feels that it is necessary to make a supreme effort to vigorously confront the existing crisis and to try to redefine policies at the world level, in order to improve the situation.

Charges against Nicaragua are the product of newspapers. In regard to statements attributed to several state rulers and government officials to the effect that it is necessary to intervene in Nicaragua because it is taking a Marxist-Leninist path, President Carazo said that these statements are the product of newspapers. No president has been heard to say that; such reports are just published and that is all, he said.

The chief of state does not grant credibility to such reports, because in his opinion they originate with the newspapers and not with the persons to whom they are attributed.

BRIEFS

VISA AGREEMENT WITH ROK -- The Governments of Costa Rica and the Republic of Korea have signed a bilateral agreement which eliminates the need of a visa for citizens of either country. The courtesy is only valid for 90 days. A visa is required when travelers stay more than 90 days. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Nov 81 PA]

EL SALVADOR

GOVERNMENT TO DISTRIBUTE 81,000 HECTARES OF LAND

PA142255 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 14 Nov 81 pp 2, 47

[Excerpts] Yesterday the government junta, through Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich, announced Decree No 842, which provides for the transfer of approximately 81,000 hectares of land acquired by the state prior to the promulgation of the basic agrarian reform law, to the Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation [ISTA] for distribution to peasants.

Some allocations will be made collectively, to cooperatives under "equal agrarian reform conditions, while others will be made individually or by parcel."

Some of this land is already being administered by ISTA, but an attempt is being made to "improve the organization, in order to restore its value." Beneficiaries will have from 20 to 30 years to pay.

Decree No 842 Defines itself as the "law for the awarding of land acquired by ISTA prior to the existence of the basic agrarian reform law."

This law applies to property exploited directly by ISTA; property distributed by ISTA under titles of any kind without final transfer of ownership to the respective beneficiaries; nonallocated properties and properties whose title, possession or tenancy reverts to ISTA by resolution or recision of the respective contract.

As to the beneficiaries, the law provides that the land and property involved may be assigned to cooperatives and peasant organizations that have been duly registered with the Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Cooperatives [Instituto Salvadoreno de Fomento Cooperativo -- INSAFOCOOP] or with the Department of Agricultural Associations of the Agriculture Ministry, as well as to family groups or individuals.

It also states that ISTA may retain only those properties that may be necessary for fulfillment of the purposes and objectives assigned to the institute by the basic agrarian reform law and other laws that may be issued.

Additionally, the decree states that from the moment of allocation, ISTA will cease to bear labor, civil or any other responsibility for the property.

REPORTAGE ON ARMED FORCES, GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES

Railroad Service Interrupted

PA140245 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 12 Nov 81 p 3

[Text] Juan Ramos Panameno, a 45-year-old engineer for the Salvadoran National Railway, FENADESAL, died yesterday afternoon when the train he was taking to La Union was derailed and machinegunned at km 130 of the railroad, in La Noria Canton, Jiquilisco, Usulutan.

According to FENADESAL officials in Usulutan, Ramos Panameno, the engineer in diesel unit 860 was driving a mixed train, carrying both passengers and cargo. The journey was scheduled to end in Cutuco (La Union). Most of the train's cars contained cargo, while only one of them carried passengers. The passengers came out unharmed, as did the rest of the crew.

The attack occurred around 1535, when two bombs exploded around km 130. The engine reportedly managed to avoid the blasts because the terrorists detonated the bombs after almost half of the cars had passed by. Eight cars were derailed, sustaining considerable damage.

Immediately after the two bombs exploded, the terrorists reportedly began machinegunning both the cars and the engine. Engineer Ramos Panameno died on the spot. Once the attackers gained control of the situation, they reportedly proceeded to loot the cars. They forced the passengers to hand over their money, personal objects and all of their possessions. The train had departed from San Salvador at 0645; the cargo it was carrying was destined for several towns in the east.

One of the cars, which reportedly carried a large cargo of cement, was completely looted by the attackers. According to the sources, the terrorists carried out the attack on the same spot, close to Tierra Blanca, where a similar attack was carried out 3 months ago. Another engineer died in that attack. Several passengers were seriously injured then and are still in the hospital.

Several groups of FENADESAL workers began repairing the railroad today and placing the damaged cars back on the rails, so that they can be returned to San Salvador for repairs. Repair work will continue today and tomorrow. In the meantime, the railroad will provide service only to San Marcos Lempa. From there on to the east, railroad service will be interrupted.

Army Begins Cabanas Operation

PA140433 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 13 Nov 81 p 48

[Text] The armed forces launched a thorough search yesterday through rugged zones in Cabanas Department -- where there are presumably many terrorists -- to cleanse it of the extremists who have been harassing a number of villages, a military source reported.

According to an armed forces spokesman, the anti-insurgency operations will take place mainly near Villa Dolores, Villa Victoria, San Isidro and several border areas near Honduras. Concerning the reinforcements received from the San Miguel and San Vicente detachments, the source said they were not necessary, since the Sensuntepeque garrison has enough men to fight the extremists believed to be operating in the area.

The source did not say how long the clean up operations would last, but he did suggest that they would probably continue until next week. He added that these actions are completely separate from those carried out by detachment No 5 in several parts of San Vicente Department.

According to the armed forces spokesman, once these operations conclude, the Defense Ministry will present a detailed report on their results.

FMLN's Central Front Reports

PA132007 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 13 Nov 81

[War report from Modesto Ramirez central front issued at 1000 on 12 November on Guazapa Hill and signed by Commander (Misael Gallardo) -- read by announcer]

[Text] November 8: A squad of FMLN sappers and a militia platoon seized a stretch of highway between Aguilares and Suchitoto and our explosives experts seriously damaged the bridge over the Las Flores River. Our militia platoon also blocked the same stretch of the highway.

November 10: Two guerrilla columns, one from the Modesto Ramirez central front and the other from the Anastasio Aquino paracentral front, in close cooperation, crossed (Cerron Grande Lake) and seized enemy positions in San Luis del Carmen and Santa Cruz, Chalatenango Department, at 0100. Following a 45-minute battle at San Luis, the dictatorship's military forces [words indistinct] and six members of the death squad were killed. Our forces seized a Czechoslovak rifle, a .38 revolver; three boxes full of .357 cartridges; six military uniforms, of which three are for sergeants and three for soldiers; three pairs of military boots and some items of prime necessity which have helped meet the needs of our population.

In Santa Cruz Canton, we seized control of the situation after a 30-minute battle. Eight paramilitary soldiers, including the local commander, were killed. We seized the following material: a special .38 revolver with 50 cartridges; 3 canteeens and 2 motor boats which the dictatorship's forces used to patrol.

The occupation of these two objectives lasted 2 hours and 30 minutes. A small rally was held with the population. Our fighters then returned to base.

November 11: Scoffing at the enemy's close vigilance, FMLN forces again placed explosive charges on the bridge over the Las Flores River, located on the road linking Suchitoto with Aguilares. This time the bridge was completely destroyed. This completed the action carried out 3 days earlier.

FMLN Reports Sabotage

PA132025 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 13 Nov 81

[War report from Anastasio Aquino paracentral front -- read by announcer]

[Text] The stretch of highway from San Vicente to Zacatecoluca has been blocked with boulders. At the same time, a stretch of the railway was sabotaged. San Jacinto, (La Burra) and (Amatitan Arriba) Cantons were attacked with 81-mm mortars from points occupied by the enemy in northern San Vicente from 0900 to 1130. On 7 November power lines along the road from Tecoluca to El Playon were sabotaged near (Santa Clara farm). Tecoluca was left without power.

40 Troops Reportedly Killed

PA132023 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] The FMLN's fighters have inflicted no less than 40 casualties on the army while rejecting a large-scale offensive launched by the Christian Democratic-military regime in areas of Chalatenango and Cabanas Departments near the major Cerron Grande hydroelectric plant. The army is using tanks, heavy artillery and bombers in its offensive.

Meanwhile, the Salvadoran patriotic forces have charged that Honduran Government troops have massed at the Honduran-Salvadoran border to facilitate operations against FMLN guerrillas.

It has also been reported that the Salvadoran rebels derailed a train near the destroyed Oro Bridge and seized the 400 tons of merchandise it was carrying.

The U.S. newspaper the Washington POST has asserted that the FMLN is in control of one fourth of the Salvadoran territory and is swiftly gaining ground because its forces are far more effective than government forces in combat.

Telephone Exchanges Destroyed

PA142150 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2042 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] San Salvador, 14 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Official spokesmen reported to ACAN-EFE today that a large sector of San Salvador is without telephone service due to the destruction of several telephone exchanges by leftist guerrilla groups.

According to reports, at least five telephone exchanges have been destroyed by bombings in the last 3 days. About 15 districts in northern San Salvador have been affected.

Official sources said that the extremists concentrated their attacks this week on telephone exchanges. No bombings have been reported in stores, banks or restaurants; which were the targets of previous guerrilla attacks.

The sources added that the destruction of the exchanges greatly affects the residents of the area and the national economy, as repairs are estimated at several thousand dollars.

Guerrilla Victories Reported

PA151725 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1400 GMT 15 Nov 81

[Text] We have received the following report on military actions from Torola: On 13 November, at 0800, our FMLN forces attacked an enemy position in the town of Torola, Morazan Department. Our forces inflicted two casualties on the enemy and then withdrew without incident.

Here is another report -- this time from Guasapa: On 14 November, at 0230, FMLN forces attacked the barracks at the Primavera ranch, Palacios Canton, on the east side of Guasapa. Fighting continued for 2 and 1/2 hours, until 0500. The enemy had many casualties. While the barracks were being attacked, an ambush was carried out against approximately 40 soldiers. We do not know the exact number of enemy casualties but we do know that there were many. On our part we regret the death of two heroic FMLN fighters.

According to reports from Cabanas Department, our heroic fighters in that area have inflicted serious blows on the enemy, which has suffered many casualties.

As we have been reporting, the enemy has entered our territory in Morazan Department [as heard] and has received a solid answer from our militiamen and regular army in Cabanas Department.

In future broadcasts we will report on the violent clashes that have taken place in Cabanas Department.

GUATEMALA

MENDOZA COMMENTS ON AMERICAN ARMIES MEETING

PA140354 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Quotation marks denote recorded portions]

[Text] Thirty-three [as heard] countries of the continent met in Washington last week for the 14th conference of American armies. No delegates from Cuba or Nicaragua attended the conclave. Guatemala was represented at the event by Defense Minister Gen Rene Mendoza Palomo. This station, which likes to present exclusive information to you, tonight gives you the first comments made by General Mendoza, who was interviewed at Aurora International Airport on his return to Guatemala.

Intially, General Mendoza commented on the absence of Cuba and Nicaragua from the military conclave:

"Neither Cuba nor Nicaragua were present because they are the USSR's instruments for threatening the American republics and are a means by which the USSR makes its presence felt in Latin America and in insular America."

General Mendoza said that he had not met formally with his Salvadoran and Honduran counterparts, although he had talked with them during social activities. He also commented on the viewpoints of the Armies of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras as to subversion:

"I believe that there is a consensus that subversion is an international threat, that the movements threatening this region are not all native, but that all of this is part of an international plot, undoubtedly promoted by the USSR."

Regarding subversion in this country, General Mendoza said that there is greater control over the guerrillas:

"Of course, the people themselves can testify to this. I believe that the army is determined to preserve the peace and sovereignty of the Republic of Guatemala. I think that the situation is under control. This is our mission and we are prepared to fulfill it."

The army commanders of 23 American countries attending the military conclave in Washington agreed that it is necessary to resume the initiative in the struggle against communism and to promote the defense of the continent.

"This was undoubtedly so, because there were almost identical viewpoints as to the fact that the communist threat merits attention and that we should resume the initiative to defend the continent and to preserve the standard of living we want for our countries."

As for Cuba and Nicaragua, the United States has not yet adopted any definitive resolution, but several South American countries would like firm action to be taken. Here are General Mendoza's comments on this subject:

"There has not yet been a real decision as to the position to be taken by the United States, as the leader of the Western world, but I believe that there are powers in South America that stressed their interest in defending themselves and their countries from the communist threat."

Finally, the defense minister commented on the armed forces' determination to defend the electoral process:

"We are prepared to see that the elections are held, as the president of the republic has said, and to see that this event on 7 March is the civic exercise that it should be."

ECONOMY MINISTER PLEASED ABOUT OIL RESERVES

PA131945 Guatemala City EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 4 Nov 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] That huge wealth of our petroleum reserves will be the country's economic salvation, Economy Minister Valentin Solorzano said today in reference to Mining Secretary Jorge Luis Monzon's report on this.

Regarding Guatemala's potential petroleum reserves, Monzon said that they are estimated at 2 billion barrels. He added that this is an overall estimate which takes into account the petroleum fields of Rubelsanto and Chinaja and that of the Texaco Company which are being exploited in the areas that have been specified through bids and the respective contracts.

Guatemala can be described as a petroleum country thanks to the reserves it has, the economy minister added. He expressed pleasure over this information since it gives Guatemala a special status among the countries which base their economic potential on black gold.

The confirmation of our petroleum potential could not have come at a better time, he indicated. In this way, our monetary reserves which not long ago amounted to around 500 million quetzales can return to that level because of our crude petroleum.

Regarding the closing of operations of Exmibal, the minister expressed regrets that this company has decided to close its operations due to the international nickel market and the high production costs.

We had estimated, he said, that thanks to Exmibal's operations, around 300 million quetzales in foreign exchange had entered the country. Therefore, even though the decision to close is based on acceptable reasons, it is regrettable from any viewpoint.

HONDURAS

POST COMMANDER REPORTS NICARAGUAN INCURSION

PA141316 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2355 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 13 Nov (LATIN-REUTER) -- Nicaraguan troops crossed the Honduran border line and attacked a customs post, a Honduran Army captain has reported.

Capt Raul Banegas, commander of the post, told a local radio station that his troops forced the Nicaraguans to retreat to their own territory after an armed clash that lasted 1/2 hour. There were no casualties among the attackers or the attacked.

The incident occurred at Guasaule, over 150 km south of the capital, the officer said, adding that approximately 200 families who lived in the area had to be evacuated as consequence of the violence.

Relations between Honduras and Nicaragua have remained very cold as a result of Nicaraguan charges that followers of the late dictator Anastasio Somoza are using Honduras as sanctuary from which to carry out warlike action against the Sandinist revolution. There was no immediate reaction from Nicaragua regarding the incursion, one of the many that have occurred in recent months.

VIOLATION OF AIRSPACE BY NICARAGUA REPORTED

PA130427 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0211 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government asserted tonight that two Nicaraguan Air Force planes have violated its airspace. A police spokesman told ACAN-EFE that they were Israeli-made "Arava" airplanes, which are used to launch paratroopers or to transport troops to areas with short or inadequate runways. The Nicaraguan airplanes flew over the Las Trojes municipality, El Paraiso Department, in the eastern part of Honduras, 45 km from the Nicaraguan border.

The police disclosed that their units in Las Trojes immediately reported this to their superiors in Tegucigalpa, who in turn reported the incident to the Honduran Foreign Ministry. The Foreign Ministry has not yet published an official bulletin on the incident because it intends to conduct further investigations.

SOLDIER INTERVIEWED ON EL MERENDON OPERATION

PA131707 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] The following is a statement made by a member of the 3d Infantry Battalion stationed in San Pedro Sula, contradicting the statement made by his commanding officer. He says that the troops are indeed looking for guerrillas in the El Merendon Mountains. This report was submitted yesterday by (Alfonso Amariba Calix).

[Begin recording, in progress]...also to get some impressions from them in this report from the site of events. Today we are in the El Merendon Mountains and we are going to interview a soldier:

[Question] What areas in these mountains have you searched?
[Answer] We are searching El Merendon Hill for guerrillas, but we have found no trace of them.

[Question] Has the search been thorough?
[Answer] Quite thorough. We have looked all over and have found nothing. There is no trace.

[Question] Are many Honduran soldiers taking part in this action?
[Answer] Yes, many. Many [words indistinct].

[Question] Yes, but tell me, have helicopters participated in this search? Is it an air and land search?
[Answer] Yes, by air and by land, because according to the commander of this unit, this is a practice. According to what is happening this practice and [passage indistinct].

[Question] Were you told that there may be guerrillas in this area?
[Answer] According to what has been said on the radio, guerrillas have been seen, but we have not seen any.

[Question] Are you ready to repel any guerrilla action? Are you well equipped?
[Answer] Yes, we have enough equipment for this. We have all kinds of special weapons for this, but there is no trace of the guerrillas. [end recording]

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION PROTESTS ABUSES

PA150350 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 8 Nov 81 p 15 B

[Paid advertisement]

[Text] The Commission for the Defense of Human Rights in Central America informs the people of Costa Rica and the world that:

The total uncertainty and insecurity being lived by Salvadoran refugees in El Salvador and in the camps located along the border with Honduras, as well as the growing pressures and threats of all kinds against Salvadoran refugees in that country, have been intensified lately by the decision of the Honduran military sectors to impose a curfew in La Virtud, where some 25,000 Salvadorans live in refugee camps.

The Honduran military decision restricts the movement of persons from 2100 until 0500 each day. This measure was taken under the pretext of protecting the lives of the refugees against the constant armed attacks of the members of Nationalist Democratic Organization [ORDEN] in the region. In fact, this is a pretext used to pressure the refugees in various ways, so that they will accept their transfer to another part of the country, leaving the border region free for future intervention by Honduran forces against the people's organizations in El Salvador. The maneuvers of intimidation have also included the machinegunning of the offices and vehicles of CARITAS, a Catholic Church aid organization that assists the refugees.

Our commission also notes the growing complicity of Honduran police organizations with their Salvadoran, Guatemalan and Ecuadorean colleagues in Honduran territory.

In view of the evident deterioration in the conditions of safety and in the guarantee of human rights in Honduras, our commission:

1. Brings these matters to the attention of Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, so that he can take the necessary steps to restore trust in his government;

2. Protests the continuous violations of the human rights of Salvadoran refugees in Honduras;

3. Deplores the lack of control among Honduran sectors that wish to "help" the Salvadoran military junta fight and exterminate its own people;

4. Deplores the actions of various organizations that work with the refugees and that supply information that is later used by police organizations against the refugees.

The Commission for the Defense of Human Rights in Central America notes with great concern the growing threats of intervention by Southern Cone governments, Guatemala, military sectors in Honduras, the United States and Venezuela, all of which favor an open intervention in the Salvadoran conflict.

Our commission appeals to all responsible persons in Costa Rica and the world to express their rejection and condemnation of the facts and accusations expressed in this document.

San Jose, 31 October 1981
[Signed] Luis Segreda Mena, vice president,
Commission for the Defense of Human Rights in Central America

NICARAGUA

AMBASSADOR TO U.S. CRUZ RESIGNS POSITION

Recalled for Consultations

PA142039 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] Arturo Cruz, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States, arrived in Nicaragua this morning. He left Washington yesterday afternoon but his trip was delayed by some mechanical trouble with the plane in which he was traveling. As a result, he had to fly to San Jose, Costa Rica.

Our country's ambassador to the United States was recalled for consultations by the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction because of the increase in the U.S. leaders' destabilization activities. Lately, there has been an increase in the threats and aggressive statements against our process by Washington officials, who are not hiding their serious intention of taking tangible steps against Cuba and Nicaragua.

The revolutionary government has repeatedly expressed its intention of maintaining good relations with the United States, as with any other country in the world, within a framework of strict respect for each other's sovereignty and right to self-determination.

Our ambassador to the White House had been called earlier by the government, just a few days ago, also for consultations. He is not meeting with members of the government junta, with whom he is discussing the policy to be implemented by our country in facing the North American interventionist offensive.

Resignation Reported

PA142334 Paris AFP in Spanish 2317 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] Managua, 14 Nov (AFP) -- Arturo Cruz, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States, reported at a press conference at the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry that he resigned his post today. Cruz expressed his displeasure at U.S. reports of the alleged presence of Cuban military personnel in Nicaragua. He added that he will remain at his post until his replacement is appointed.

His resignation, reported today, confirms rumors to that effect that were spread last week.

Explains Withdrawal From Post

PA150122 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0020 GMT 15 Nov 81

[Text] Managua, 14 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Arturo Cruz, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States, explained today that he has withdrawn from the post because, among other things, "I do not have the means by which to do an effective job."

The official announcement of Cruz' withdrawal from the post of ambassador in Washington was made by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto, a priest, during a press conference at the Foreign Ministry in Managua.

Arturo Cruz said he had reached the conclusion that as a private citizen "I will be able to defend the Sandinist revolution from influential U.S. sectors much more effectively than as an ambassador.

Cruz said that at a time when Nicaragua is facing an internal problem, "which, thank God, is about to be resolved;" and when, in addition, "there are external threats to my country," it is logical that he "should be relieved" by another who will carry out the delicate mission.

D'Escoto had previously emphasized that it was decided to hold the press conference to announce Cruz' withdrawal in order to avoid speculation, which had already been generated, to the effect that Cruz had "resigned." The foreign minister explained that 9 months ago, when Cruz withdrew from the Nicaraguan junta of national reconstruction, it was agreed that his ambassadorial appointment "would be for approximately 6 months." However, it is obviously more than 6 months since Cruz was appointed. Therefore, "at this time" Cruz feels it would be best for him to withdraw, to return to private life.

On the present state of relations between the United States and Nicaragua, Cruz said that "despite the tensions caused by the ominous manifestations that have taken place in Washington, there is a desire to maintain a dialogue between the two governments.

"I will now retire to private life, from which I will always be ready to make any contribution that may be necessary for my country," Cruz added.

Cruz, who was president of the Nicaraguan Central Bank and a militiaman, said slowly, "I am happy because concrete steps are currently being taken in Nicaragua to achieve the indispensable national unity."

The outgoing ambassador said that in Nicaragua there are two kinds of political opposition to the government: one antirevolutionary group that wants the process to fail; and another of "convergence," which seeks to "influence" the process -- unlike the first group, which wants to subvert it.

"As a hegemonic force, the FSLN has to use its influence to establish a balance at times. I urge Nicaraguans to seek effective national unity, since this is the best defense against any external threat that may exist," Cruz said.

Arturo Cruz was also a member of the famous group of "the 12," the first group to issue a public manifesto supporting the FSLN's decision to use arms against Somozism.

Cruz explained aspects of his political affiliation. He said that it is not true that he has resigned from membership in the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua. "I will continue to be a conservative," he said.

Arturo Cruz arrived in Managua today from Washington to meet with Foreign Minister d'Escoto and with the government junta. He announced his withdrawal here. However, he is scheduled to return to Washington to introduce the new Nicaraguan ambassador to President Ronald Reagan's administration.

Defines Position

PA152321 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1934 GMT 15 Nov 81

[Excerpts] Managua, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Arturo Cruz, former Nicaraguan ambassador to Washington, said today that he will continue being a member of both the opposition Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua and of the Sandinist People's Militia.

He continues to believe that "for better or for worse" the United States is "the most important nation with which we have relations," in spite of the delicate situation existing between the two nations.

Cruz said that he "will be faithful to the revolution, but a dissident." He added that he had arrived at the conclusion that he no longer had the means at hand to continue in his post in Washington.

He said that the new Nicaraguan ambassador to Washington must have the confidence of the revolutionary government and that "when he speaks in the United States he must do so with the full weight of the Sandinist Front's real power."

BORDER INCIDENT WITH HONDURAS REPORTED

Communique Issued

PA141300 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Foreign Ministry communique issued on 13 November in Managua]

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Nicaragua reports the following:

On Thursday, 13 November, at 0900, troops of the Honduran Armed Forces fired from Honduran territory on the Nicaraguan Guasaule border post with rifles and 30 and 50-cal machineguns. The attack lasted approximately 60 minutes.

Although the members of our Sandinist People's Army [EPS] did not reply to the aggression in compliance with their orders, it was observed that following the attack, all civilians were evacuated on the Honduran side and a company of the Honduran Army was deployed in combat positions.

To prevent the incident from flaring up, Commander Manuel Salvatierra communicated immediately with the chief of the Honduran troops in that sector, Major (Sotomayor), who irresponsibly declared that the EPS troops had fired first.

After being informed of what had happened, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs immediately filed a formal and vigorous protest to the Honduran Foreign Secretariat. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs made a faithful and detailed report of the events and reiterated that this new and inexcusable attack on our territory is the most recent of a series of acts of this nature which our Foreign Ministry has been denouncing and which only diminish and make more difficult Nicaragua's efforts to alleviate tension in the Central American area and to avoid tension between our two countries.

It is with the intention of preventing the repetition of acts such as the one denounced in the present note that we have insisted on the need for compliance with what was agreed upon at Guasaule, between the president of Honduras, Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia; and the coordinator of the Government of National Reconstruction, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra. They agreed that our respective ministers of defense would meet as soon as possible.

The Nicaraguan Ministry of Foreign Affairs cannot but state how difficult it is to understand the reason for the apparent refusal of the illustrious Government of Honduras to implement this agreement, which would obviously aid substantially in preventing the repetition of acts which in no way contribute to the strengthening of our good relations; which continue to be the primary objective of Nicaragua and, we suppose, of the illustrious Government of Honduras.

Sandino on Honduran 'Lie'

PA141650 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Excerpt] The policy of truth is the policy of the revolution. The irresponsibility of Honduran news media is out in the open. Yesterday we obtained confirmation in Tegucigalpa that they are distorting the truth in open provocation.

Dear listerners, yesterday at about 1030, the station of the vanguard suffered a power outage and the signal of Voz de Honduras was suddenly heard on its frequency. Newsmen from that country could be heard repeating, in extremely alarming terms, a tailored version of another border conflict to which a communique from our Foreign Ministry has just referred.

As our Foreign Ministry said in its communique, the Honduran Armed Forces attacked the Guasaule border checkpoint with rifle and machinegun fire but the Sandinist People's Army did not answer the provocation.

Nevertheless, radio stations, newspapers and news agencies in Honduras spread the lie that Nicaraguan troops were to blame for the incident. This is the so-called freedom of the press the Inter-American Press Association regularly upholds.

Ortega on Border Incidents

PA152000 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1645 GMT 15 Nov 81

[Text] Panama, 15 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Sandinist government council [junta], announced this weekend that "there are some Honduran Army officers who want to promote a war against Nicaragua." Toward the end of this week the Honduran Government reported the violation of its airspace by Nicaraguan aircraft.

Speaking in the northern Nicaraguan city of Matagalpa on the radio-television program "Face the People," the Sandinist government leader stated that he had sent a letter to Honduran President Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, the content of which will be published in the next few days.

However, Commander Ortega Saavedra said in advance that the letter outlined to President Paz Garcia the case of the "warmongering" Honduran officers and the tense border situation between the two countries caused by bands of former Somozist guardsmen in the area.

"The situation is quite serious and we, therefore, cannot let down our guard when it comes to building up defenses for the revolution," Ortega Saavedra said.

The Nicaraguan Government leader noted that on Saturday the government junta had studied the attack on a military border post in El Guasaule which took place last Thursday from Honduran territory.

The Sandinist leader said that the 1-hour exchange of fire was provoked "undoubtedly" by former Somozist guardsmen who fired on Honduran military positions in the northern region.

"Since the distance at which the troops are posted on the border is short, the Hondurans think that the shots originated from the Nicaraguan side and thus returned the fire," Daniel Ortega Saavedra explained.

On the topic that "some Honduran officers want to promote a war with Nicaragua," the Sandinist leader noted that these officers agree with the idea of Salvadoran Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia and the Guatemala military that a "northern triangle" should be created.

This alliance of the Armies of Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala would be launched in a warmongering military adventure, Commander Ortega Saavedra charged.

But the Sandinist government leader noted that Honduran Government authorities have "responsibly announced" that they are opposed to this "northern triangle."

CORDOVA RIVAS ON U.S. TIES, NATIONAL DIALOGUE

PA131501 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Nov 81 p 6

[Excerpts] The following is an interview with Dr Rafael Cordova Rivas, broadcast yesterday on Radio Noticias' Radioinformation newscast. The interview includes aspects of general interest.

[Question] What do you think of the effort being made to hold a new dialogue of national reflection?
[Answer] I don't think this will have any positive result.

[Question] Do you think the Nicaraguan Conservative Party [PCN] [as published] should participate in this reflection dialogue?
[Answer] The Democratic Conservative Party (PCD) does not participate in any meeting with minority political parties. The only meeting in which the PCD would participate would be one held with the FSLN.

[Question] Don't you believe that a dialogue among all national sectors would contribute to national unity?
[Answer] Well, one would have to define which sectors of the nation, which of them are being described as national sectors.

[Question] The other parties, the private sector and also the Sandinist Front and the PCD.
[Answer] Well, the private sector should dedicate itself to production and to the country's reconstruction. The other political groups are so small that I do not take them into account.

[Question] So you don't see anything practical about this...?
[Answer] Nothing, nothing at all. The only practical thing will be when the Sandinist Front holds a dialogue with the PCD. This is why the PCD does not belong to the group known as the Democratic Coordinating Board.

[Question] You say you do not agree with the political moratorium proposed by Robelo. Why, doctor?
[Answer] Because it is impossible. That is not logical; it makes no political sense, so to speak, right? Political parties cannot be subject to a moratorium. The FSLN seeks to further nourish its members, its Sandinist youth, its partisans and so forth. The same thing happens with the other parties. Frankly, I don't understand what this moratorium means. I have heard the term moratorium used only in case of debt and I don't see any debt here.

[Question] What hope is there of improving the relations between the United States and the Nicaraguan Government?
[Answer] That is a problem at a higher level. There is little hope. I have always said that Nicaragua is like a speck in the eye of the United States. It will not kill it, it will not blind it, it will not make it go to bed; but it constantly bothers and irritates the United States until taken out.

[Question] What would happen if the United States broke its relations with Nicaragua, doctor?
[Answer] Nothing. Nothing would happen. We, Nicaragua, do not break relations with any country in the world.

[Question] But what if they broke with us?
[Answer] That would be their affair. You would have to ask them. As for us, our position is that we will not break relations with any country.

[Question] There is much talk that neither political pluralism nor mixed economy exist here in Nicaragua. As a member of the PCN [as published], what can you tell us about this?
[Answer] That is the opinion held by those who say this; however, Conservative Party members can be found in their individual roles within the government junta, the Supreme Court and all the state bodies.

PASTORA DENIES NICARAGUAN AID TO EL SALVADOR

PA142309 Paris AFP in Spanish 1414 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] Madrid, 14 Nov (AFP) -- TIGRIS magazine, distributed by the Iraqi Embassy here, published an exclusive interview today with Nicaraguan Commander Eden Pastora, known as "Commander Cero," who left his country several months ago to fight abroad.

The magazine did not specify where the interview was granted, but it did publish a picture of "Commander Cero" and the newsmen in front of a desert background, which means that it might have been given in an Arab country. Pastora does not say anything about his present activities, but he does comment on the situation in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

He said that Nicaragua needs weapons too badly to be supplying them to El Salvador. He is asked, "where do the guerrillas get their weapons?

"Where else? The same place where we used to get them. They buy them in Miami from the American gangsters who give all kinds of cooperation."

Pastora said, "how can anyone think that we are going to jeopardize our revolution because of that conflict, knowing that any day we might have to face an invasion and that we will need those weapons for our own people." He added, "Reagan is not Kennedy and an invasion like the Bay of Pigs in Nicaragua would be conducted with different methods and characteristics, because this cowboy is really a problem."

Eden Pastora said that he is "proud" that the Nicaragua revolution has been "the most humanitarian and the most Christian ever." He said "there are Marxists, liberationists, liberals and, of course, a Christian majority in the FSLN."

Commander Cero explained the friendship between Nicaragua and Cuba, saying, "if we ask for teachers and nurses and one country sends us more than others do, it is logical that we would be more grateful and pay more attention to that country."

He said, "our policy is to be friendly to our friends. We are also very grateful to Carlos Andres Perez, who helped us so much in the past. We must say the same of the Arab countries, which are showing great solidarity with Nicaragua. I believe this will be the beginning of a long and fruitful mutual cooperation."

TRADE MINISTER ON EXPANSION OF EXPORT MARKETS

PA141818 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] Alejandro Martinez Cuenca, Nicaraguan minister of foreign trade, has said that Nicaragua is no longer dependent on a single foreign market because the country can now count on a diversified market for its export farm products.

It can be safely stated that dependence on a single traditional market such as the United States has ended insofar as our main export items are concerned. Cotton and coffee, which were previously exported only to the United States, are now being sold to Europe, Asia and Africa. This diversification has resulted in new opportunities for Nicaragua, such as trade through credit lines and the exploration of previously unknown foreign markets.

Martinez said that the problem with tobacco and the paralyzation of cigar production in Esteli has been virtually solved through exports to Spain and the Arab countries. He charged that production was paralyzed in Nicaragua because the Cuban worms who owned these industries in Esteli took over the Nicaraguan Joya trademark and registered it in their own name in the United States to keep us from marketing our product. Nicaragua has now adopted a new trademark in order to market its various types of cigars.

The following is an excerpt of the interview we held with the foreign trade minister:

[Begin recording] In the field of exports, our traditional markets for coffee, cotton and sugar were the United States and some European countries. Since our victory -- and this has been proved with figures -- our trade in coffee, cotton and sugar has become diversified. New markets for coffee and cotton, such as Mexico and the socialist countries, have been opened. We have expanded ties in Asia, particularly with the PRC and the Republic of China, Japan and Thailand.

In a nutshell, we have developed a number of alternatives. New mechanisms are required to trade with these countries and we have had to apply for credit lines in some cases. Trading through credit lines is a new experience in itself.

We have also intensified efforts to obtain credits from suppliers. This is part of the plan that was launched after the victory of our revolution in 1979. [end recording]

INDEPENDENT GROUPS TO DEFEND RIGHTS, FREEDOM

PA131540 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Memorandum of commitment issued by the Federation of Nicaraguan Workers, Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions and Confederation of Nicaraguan Professional Associations in Managua on 11 November 1981 -- read by (Eric Ramirez Benavente)

[Text] The Federation of Nicaraguan Workers [CTN], the Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions [CUS] and the Confederation of Nicaraguan Professional Associations [CONAPRO], independent Nicaraguan associations, have held a meeting at the offices of the CTN and agreed on the following:

We are conscious of the political, social and economic crisis the country is experiencing. It has led us to meet today in order to take the initial steps to prepare an analysis of the nation's problems and to seek minimum points of concurrence.

Therefore, we have agreed on the following:

1. We acknowledge that our organizations represent Nicaraguan laborers, peasants, workers and professions with a free, democratic and civic stance.

2. Therefore, we stress that we have common interests and that, in their capacity as bodies uniting the country's independent labor force, our organizations can set goals leading to tangible and joint action.

3. We have agreed to appoint a permanent coordination committee, which will be composed of representatives of our organizations, to draft a short, medium and long-range program.

4. We concur on the need for true freedom of speech; full enforcement of individual guarantees; unlimited respect for freedom of worship; full respect for human rights; free trade unionism, education, housing and health for the Nicaraguan people. We acknowledge that a full enforcement of the fundamental statute and the statute of rights and guarantees of Nicaraguans should be the basis to establish peace and harmony among our people.

In witness whereof, we sign this document in Managua on 11 November 1981.
Signers for CONAPRO: (Ronaldo Calonje), Alfredo Articles, (Alejandro Dix), (Licentiate Jacopta), (Aristides Lasso) and (Eric Ramirez).
Signers for CTN: Carlos Huembes, (Miguel Escudero), (Agustin Rodriguez), (Damaso Obando) and Victor Espinoza.
Signers for CUS: (Bayardo Lopez Pineda), (Alvin Gunthrie), (Santos Tijerino), (Jorge Morales), (Gerardo Matamoros), and Marta Castillo.

BRIEFS

RESERVE BATTALION MOBILIZED -- Granada's 80-11 Battalion is summoning all the department's combative youth to respond, since it will be leaving soon for military training somewhere in Nicaragua. All companeros willing to join the 80-11 Battalion are also invited to visit its office at (Jaldeba) Plaza. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Nov 81 PA]

CASTRO ON SOLUTION TO CENTRAL AMERICA SITUATION

PA160230 Paris AFP in Spanish 2339 GMT 15 Nov 81

[Text] Havana, 15 Nov (AFP) -- In regard to the Central American problem, "the wisest thing is to have a negotiated political solution," Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro said here today. "Any military action will only make things worse," Castro said, adding that the North Americans "are opposed to a negotiated political solution to the conflict."

"They want a military solution in order to destroy the revolutionaries to the last man, but that has never happened and it never will," he said.

Castro made these statements after visiting several work centers in Havana on the occasion of the sixth Red Sunday. This is a day of volunteer work called by the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, CTC.

According to official sources, more than 2 million people participated in this Red Sunday, which had three objectives; "To commemorate the 64th anniversary of the USSR October Revolution; to commemorate also the 10th congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions, WFTU; and to donate the wages of this day to finance the territorial militias."

NATIONWIDE SUPPORT FOR CASTRO STATEMENTS CONTINUES

FL141429 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] The Cuban people and foreigners residing in Cuba continue to demonstrate their unrestricted support for the statements made by our commander in chief, Fidel Castro, at the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution congress, with messages, special ceremonies and rallies.

More than 300,000 young people and Pioneers in Holguin Province expressed their readiness to defend the revolution, even in difficult circumstances, in a letter addressed to Miguel Cano Blanco, alternate member of the Politburo and party first secretary in the provinces. In their message, the young people and Pioneers noted that until the need arises to take up arms, they will commit themselves to achieving outstanding successes in economic and educational pursuits. Soviet and Bulgarian specialists and foreign students in Holguin held a march of solidarity with the revolution to condemn imperialist threats and lies against Cuba.

Many demonstrations to express determination to defend the socialist fatherland and the revolution took place in Santa Clara in the open ground in front of Vidal Park in the central area of Villa Clara's capital. Students, workers, mass organization representatives and internationalist combatants strongly supported Fidel's words.

AALAPSO RALLY CALLS FOR WORLD SOLIDARITY WITH CUBA

FL101250 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Nov 81

[Text] The executive secretariat of the Afro-Asian-Latin American People's Solidarity Organization [AALAPSO] held a rally of support for Cuba last night in Havana. Melba Hernandez, secretary general of AALAPSO, Miriam Almanza, section chief in the Central Committee's general department of foreign relations, and members of the AALAPSO secretariat presided at the rally. Congolese Ambassador Medard Momengoh addressed the rally in behalf of the African peoples, SRV Ambassador Nguyen Huu Ngo did the same for Asian peoples and (Cristian Gonzales), chairman of the Chilean committee of solidarity with the antifascist resistance, spoke for the Latin American peoples.

(Mohammed Mansur Kassavat), Syrian charge d'affaires, read an AALAPSO communique calling for redoubled solidarity with Cuba. The document alerts everyone to the dangers and threats against Cuba and condemns imperialist policy in Central America and the Caribbean.

It also calls on all honest men and women of the world to thwart the new aggressive plans of the United States and to redouble their solidarity and support for the people of our national hero, Jose Marti, and Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

LIBYA WILL STAND WITH CUBA IF U.S. ATTACKS

FL101635 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1515 GMT 10 Nov 81

[Text] 'Ali al-Ajili, secretary of the Libyan people's bureau in our country, has declared that his country stands and will stand with Cuba if it is attacked by U.S. imperialism.

In an exclusive interview on "Radio Reloj," the Libyan representative said a foundation exists for a solid and lasting friendship between Cuba and his country and spoke of the broad framework for cooperation between the two nations. He noted that Cuba is executing large projects in Libya, among which are the construction of many buildings. houses, schools and roads. 'Ali also noted that many Cuban doctors, specialists, nurses and technical personnel are working in Libyan hospitals and stressed that in the area of trade, Libya meets its sugar needs with Cuban exports.

'Ali al-Ajili said U.S. threats against his country are nothing new, since they began with the triumph of the revolution. He said each success of the Libyan people is matched by more hate from the Americans. He highlighted the courageous stance adopted by the people, led by their historic leadership, against all attacks and pressures from imperialism. He charged that the objective of the present U.S. maneuvers in the area is to threaten Libya and curb its denunciations against the imperialist plan for the Arab area. 'Ali al-Ajili said both Cuba and Libya will emerge victorious from any attack by the U.S. Government.

JAMAICAN OPPOSITION DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR VISIT

FL120203 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Nov 81

[Text] The delegation of the People's National Party [PNP] of Jamaica, headed by the former foreign minister and chairman of that political organization, Percival James Patterson, has arrived in Havana. The delegation was met at the air terminal by Manuel Pineiro Losada, member of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee and chief of its Americas department.

At a brief press conference, the Jamaican leader condemned the unilateral decision of the Seaga government to break relations with Cuba and noted: [Begin recording; in English with consecutive translation] All this is an attempt to isolate Cuba from the rest of the region and to have a reversal of the process which developed during the 1970's of trying to create a unification of the region.

[Question] Would you like to make a statement to the Cuban people on this PNP goodwill mission?

[Answer] Yes. First of all we would like to express the gratitude of the people of Jamaica for the help and support we have received from the people of Cuba in various forms. And we would wish to assure them that, besides the differences which have been occasioned by the action of our government, there is [words indistinct] and it is our hope that nothing will happen to disturb the deep friendship between the people of Jamaica and the people of Cuba. [end recording]

Patterson Press Conference

FL130203 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] This afternoon Percival James Patterson, vice president of Jamaica's People's National Party, granted a press conference during which he referred to the ties uniting the peoples of Cuba and Jamaica.

The former Jamaican foreign minister stated that neither Jamaica nor the Caribbean are anyone's backyard, when referring to the current policy of the Reagan administration. Patterson reviewed the causes that led the Seaga government to break with Cuba.

[Begin recording in English with consecutive translation] As I stated at the beginning, our opinion is that the decision to sever relations was due either to direct orders received from the United States or was made in the belief that it would be in accord with U.S. interests, and in that manner would help in getting bigger economic aid from that country. One does not expect a government to come out and say that it has broken diplomatic relations with a country because it has been ordered to do so by another country. Therefore, one can only look at the objective evidence and seek to draw one's own conclusion. We know for a fact the identity of views between the Reagan administration and the Seaga government. We also know that the strategy for economic development being pursued by the government is dependent almost exclusively on private foreign investments from the United States. [end recording]

Montane Receives Patterson

FL130144 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Nov 81

[Text] Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of Cuba's Communist Party Politburo, member of the Secretariat and chief of the Central Committee foreign relations general department, today received the delegation of the Jamaican People's National Party, headed by Dr. Percival James Patterson, former foreign minister. Patterson expressed his party's solidarity with Cuba, which was appreciated highly by Montane.

Rodriguez Meets With Patterson

FL140034 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of Cuba's Communist Party Politbruo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received the delegation of the Jamaica People's National Party [PNP] headed by Percival Patterson, vice president of that political organization. The meeting took place yesterday at the main offices of the Council of Ministers. The two leaders examined matters dealing with the new international economic order, capitalism's world crisis and the development of activities of the Nonaligned Movement in recent years.

The two sides paid special attention to the situation in the Caribbean area and especially to the situation created by the reactionary actions imposed on Jamaica by the Edward Seaga government. The delegation reiterated the solidarity of the PNP and the Jamaican people with Cuba in the face of continued Yankee threats.

CEMA FOOD MEETING ENDS; PROTOCOL SIGNED

FL141408 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Nov 81

[Text] The 37th meeting of the CEMA standing committee on cooperation in food production has concluded here with the signing of a final protocol designed to raise the quality of products and raw materials. The CEMA delegates signed a document during the closing ceremony establishing bilateral cooperation in this field for 1982-83. It was reported that the 38th meeting will be held in Belgrade 22-26 May 1982.

A joint communique issued yesterday highlights the adoption of multilateral measures for the comprehensive development of sugar and citrus production in our country as well as joint programs for scientific-technical research and work projects to make cooperation in the areas of citrus and fishing more effective.